



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/532,827	04/26/2005	Naoki Hase	052478	8889

38834 7590 02/13/2009
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP
1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW
SUITE 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

GOFF II, JOHN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1791

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

02/13/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 1791

Continuation of 3. NOTE:

Claim 1 as amended would require “wherein the temperature is controlled within the range of from 180 °C to (lamination temperature minus 100 °C)”. This is a new limitation not previously considered which raises new issues such that the amendment after final is not entered as doing so would require further consideration and/or search.

Applicants argue, “Minami discloses uniform cooling in a width direction. Cooling roller 2 provides uniform cooling. However, cooling roller 2 is used for laminating the molten resin to the raw material paper.”.

Minami teaches a cooling roller that evenly and quickly cools used in laminating machines with no specific requirement that the roller be used specifically as a laminating roller. The cooling roller can clearly be used in a laminating machine to cool a laminate.

Applicants further argue, “Akashi is directed to heating the metal plate before the cooling process so as to homogenize the plate across the width. (Col. 5, lines 44-47; col. 6, lines 58-62.) This homogenizing process is not the cooling process. Furthermore, Akashi discloses that either of the edge portion or the center portion can be heated. (Col. 3, lines 12-27.) Akashi provides no description of the cooling process.”

The homogenizing is the beginning of the cooling process. As noted in the final rejection, the lateral edges of the sheet are heated to within ± 50 °C of the center portion thereby controlling the temperature in the width direction during the cooling process of the sheet to prevent end waviness in the sheet.

Art Unit: 1791

Applicants further argue, “Therefore, Yamagishi discloses heating to provide a uniform temperature. However, Yamagishi does not disclose controlling the temperature in a cooling process.”.

As in Akashi, the heating is the beginning of the cooling process. As noted in the final rejection, the lateral edges of the sheet are heated without heating the center portion of the sheet thereby controlling the temperature in width direction during the cooling process of the sheet to prevent end waviness in the sheet.

/John L. Goff/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1791